

Series I
Correspondence,
1932-1973

Box 3, Folder 14

August 19, 1959 -
November 9, 1959

0376

12 Mt. Vernon Street
Newport, Rhode Island
August 19, 1959

Dear Hugh:

I want to thank you very much for your kindness in speaking before the Quendecim Club. Everybody was delighted, not only with what you had to say, but in your manner of saying it and in your friendly presence.

Whether you know it or not, you are a name in financial circles and it is nice for people to see names in life, rather than in the newspaper. You spoke well, you covered the subject adequately, you answered readily to questions and with all, you were so jovial and non-pedantic that you instantly made friends.

Janet's opinion that you would do well was completely borne out and I am very happy that we had the privilege of having you as our speaker. With many thanks I am,

As ever,

R. W. Bates
Rear Admiral (ret.)

Mr. Hugh D. Auchincloss
Harrison Avenue
Newport, Rhode Island

0377

12 Mt. Vernon Street
Newport, Rhode Island
August 19, 1959

Dear Mr. Myers:

Thank you for your letter relative to the Silver Service of the Cruiser Minneapolis. I am very delighted that you have obtained it and I appreciate the fact that it was largely through your personal interest that this has been accomplished. I have a joint feeling of success with you in all of this as the whole affair commenced with the Minneapolis battle flags. I am going to write to the Bureau of Ships in the Navy Department and will discover who constructed the Minneapolis and perhaps can discover where the original ship's model is—if there was one made. I am not sure that one was made for the Minneapolis but we will see.

I presume that you will be enroute to Russia and Scandinavia. I hope you don't bring any bachelors along with you because this Rockefeller-Rasmussen marriage might have a bad effect on their singleness of purpose. I suppose this will be classed as a Bates joke.

With best regards to you and Mrs. Myers and with many thanks for your continued interest in that remarkable display which you are building up at the Hennepin County Historical Society I am, as ever

Yours sincerely,

R. W. Bates
Rear Admiral (ret.)

Mr. Leslie W. Myers
1812 Park Avenue
Minneapolis 4, Minnesota

0378

12 Mt. Vernon Street
Newport, Rhode Island
August 19, 1959

Dear Barbara and Tom:

No one could have been more pleased than I was to receive your invitation to the reception immediately following the wedding of your daughter, Barbara, to Mr. Armstrong. I know that this wedding is a great delight to you and it certainly is to me. As you know, I have always had a great admiration for Barbara and I have felt that she wouldn't be too long single. I am glad to see that courses in sound military decision at the Naval War College proved to be correct for she has announced her engagement within a suitable time after I made the above personal mental decision.

I hope that this young man is what you would have hoped to have in a son-in-law. Today the parents have very little to say—the young people decide on their own although every now and then, they go through the motions. In my opinion, Barbara belongs to the old school and would have chosen no one who did not measure up to what she felt her parents expected and hoped for in a son-in-law, so I congratulate you both on this wonderful event soon to occur.

Although I have heard of you recently, I have not seen you nor have I been to Washington since my return from California and Hawaii. Whether you know it or not, I retired at the end of January upon completing the Battle of Surigao Strait, which is Volume ~~6~~ of the Leyte series. I received a wonderful letter from Admiral Burke for my work in six months off duty for the good of the Navy and the good of my series.

I didn't write you on my trip although I wrote to nearly everyone else. The reason was I, unfortunately, did not have your address and could not find anybody who had it. So don't feel badly about this—I can assure you I have the utmost admiration and affection for you both and shall always continue to do so. You are an extraordinary fine pair of great personal accomplishments, each in his or her own field. I also appreciate your support of me up here. I am quite sure that had you been at the College, I would have been enabled to complete my series on Leyte.

0379

There are many changes going on around at the War College now. There is a new advanced section under Captain Hooper, soon to be Admiral Hooper, and this outfit, working under R & A, has plenty of money. The old wing where I was located plus the wing where Eccles, Tyson and others were has been combined into one and Henry Eccles is being gradually squeezed out. It is nothing against Henry as he and Admiral Ingersoll seem to understand one another, but it is just the small size of the War College and the increased number of students, staff and projects. I hope some day, in the not too distant future, to be in Washington where I can tell you about what is going on in Newport among your numerous friends.

Very frankly, the social life is almost too much, particularly for a bachelor. I think I would be much more healthy if I could play in the daytime and sleep nights; but, unfortunately, Newport works in the reverse. The Drexel party was extraordinarily fine and beautifully arranged. The Gorham Ball at the Breakers was very successful. There are things going on all of the time. Next week we have the Newport Carnival of Music supervised, as you know, by Mary Beck. This will feature the Boston Pops Orchestra with Arthur Fiedler and will be on the Naval Base in one of the auditoriums there. We are hoping to have a great success in this as the money goes to the Boys Club.

I wish you both all the happiness in the marriage of your daughter and a most successful wedding.

Best regards, as ever

Your old friend

R. W. Bates
Rear Admiral (ret.)

Rear Admiral & Mrs. Thomas H. Robbins
1516 34th Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C.

0380

12 Mt. Vernon Street
Newport, Rhode Island
August 19, 1959

Dear Whitey

This is to follow up my request made to you at the last Quendecim meeting, that you address our forthcoming September Quendecim meeting on the subject which you felt would be interesting, i.e. your trip through the St. Lawrence Canal with the U. S. Naval Forces. This would be on the 15th of September.

I don't expect you to write me about this but in a day or so, I will call you and you can confirm your tentative acceptance. I can assure you that the whole crowd is looking forward to hearing about your epoch making trip and I am sure that you will have a lot of meat, as well as good humor thereon to tell us. If you happen to have any slides or pictures you would like to pass around, I am sure we can arrange to meet your requirements.

With best regards I am, as ever

Your old friend,

R. W. Bates
Rear Admiral (ret.)

Rear Admiral Edmund B. Taylor
15 Clay Street
Newport, Rhode Island

0381

12 Mt. Vernon Street
Newport, Rhode Island
August 19, 1959

Dear Roger:

This is the second letter to which I referred in my first letter. Admiral Robbins, recently President of the Naval War College, has invited me to the wedding of his daughter, Barbara.

I should appreciate your kindness if you will send to Miss Robbins from me one of your usual gifts, possibly one a little more expensive than heretofore. Everyone who has received one of these gifts of mine, which have been so beautifully selected by you, have been enchanted—so there you are! I should like the gift to be sent to Miss Barbara Robbins, 1516 34th Street, N.W., Washington, D. C.

Best regards,

R. W. Bates
Rear Admiral (ret.)

Mr. Roger Hallowell
Reed & Barton
Taunton, Massachusetts

0382

12 Mt. Vernon Street
Newport, Rhode Island
August 19, 1959

Dear Roger:

I am writing you two letters today. The first and most important is this one. You will remember that several weeks ago the Gorham Company sponsored the Silver Ball at the Breakers. When this went through, I was in the Hawaiian Islands and knew nothing about it.

Upon my return here, I suggested that the next time they had one of those or a time after that, perhaps Reed & Barton might like to sponsor this ball. I was told by the Honorary Chairman to write to you about this and see whether you had any interests—so I am doing this.

I should appreciate your kindness if you would drop me a note to the address given above and indicate your interest or lack of interest in the matter at present. I cannot guarantee anything. It is my understanding that, at the moment, some airline wants to sponsor one of these affairs. I don't think that it is very expensive but I can find out anything you would like if you will indicate to me that you desire that I do so.

I saw our mutual friend, Bob Leeson, at the ball and he looked fine—we had a happy time together.

Best regards,

R. W. Bates
Rear Admiral (ret.)

Mr. Roger Hallowell
Reed & Barton
Taunton, Massachusetts

0383

12 Mt. Vernon Street
Newport, Rhode Island
August 26, 1959

Dear Mick:

No one could have been more unhappy than I was over the passing of your gallant leader, Bill Halsey. I was unhappy for two reasons. One because he is a national figure and his presence was always sought everywhere in order that people might see what a kindly gentleman this old sea warrior was. He did a tremendous job in World War II and his name will go down in history as one of our great Naval leaders. You, naturally, are interested in this because since you were with him so long, you contributed in a large way to his various successes. This isn't new with me but this is the general opinion of everyone.

I am also unhappy about his passing because it seems too bad that the volume on Leyte Gulf which was to be concerned with his decisions, as well as those of others, was stopped just at the time it was becoming very important. I should like to have had it finished so that he could have read what I wrote and provided corrective ideas, if he disagreed.

Now what concerns me, and you won't like what I am going to say, I would like to get your book finished before the Creator takes you as well. There is no doubt that we are all nearing the time when we shall be called and, believe it or not, this is particularly true of our Naval high command. Notice that those who fought in the Western Pacific in high places have largely died. Think of them—Lee, McCain, Mitscher, Towers (although he wasn't out there much), Forrest Sherman, Ted Sherman and now Halsey. Those who were in the major scenes of action on aboard ships are the ones who have seemed to have undergone pressures of such nature that they quickly departed this life with the end of the war.

I would like to have this book written before Robert Carney is gone, because both you and Halsey knew what was going on and what was in your minds, whereas the lesser Staff members did not necessarily have it.

0384

I don't know what to do about it but being one of those fellows that believes in finishing a job once it is started, I am still anxious to get this thing under way again. I wonder if the incentive couldn't better come from you now that Halsey has died and perhaps you may stir the boys into action.

You wrote a letter to either Admiral Anderson or Admiral Morison wherein you discussed Morison's volume on Leyte and the relation of the Third Fleet to these writings. In these you wrote about me and, apparently, in a most friendly way. When you were at Admiral Ingersoll's house here, you said you wished me to have a copy of this and asked Admiral Anderson to give it to me. For some reason, I have never been able to get it out of him. He says he can't find it or some such thing. I am, therefore, asking you to send me a copy from your own file so that I will have exactly what you said rather than to be told.

We have had a great gala weekend up here with Arthur Fiedler and the Boston Pops Orchestra. I was on the committee and I feel that we did a remarkable job in a very limited time. About 5,000 people came to hear him and the Governor even suggested that we bring them here every year.

The weather hasn't been awfully good, varying 20°, and the little lady who is accepting this dictation is suffering from it.

With best regards to you and to your family, I am,
as ever

Your old friend,

R. W. Bates
Rear Admiral (ret.)

Admiral Robert B. Carney
1314 28th Street N.W.
Washington, D. C.

0385

12 Mt. Vernon Street
Newport, Rhode Island
August 26, 1959

Dear McAndrews:

I received your letter of 30 July with considerable delight, because I think you are a fine fellow from what I have seen of you and I was, therefore, glad to note that you have been selected to be a Panama Canal Pilot. I consider that this is a great tribute to you as the pilot organization is usually composed of a very fine and highly selected group of men. Their success is clearly proven by the extremely few accidents which merchant, or even military shipping, undergoes in the Canal. I doubt very much whether I had too much to do with your selection. I did write down there and discussed you and your wife and her family and pointed out that everyone thinks well of you and I would like to know what your prospects were. I cannot find the reply and I imagine that it is lost somewhere in the War College. However, the reply, to all intents and purposes, was that you were fine and that your chance would come up presently. All of this helped to a degree but I think what helped more than anything, was your own personal ability and high character.

I know that a very important event is expected in your family and I think that the birth of a child and promotion of the father should both be helpful in making the birth even more joyous than it might normally be. I know that your mother-in-law is fast approaching and she is looking forward to her visit there with considerable anticipation. I hope you will tell her that things are going along well with her Tunes and Talents organization, which she heads, and that there will be an editorial thereon next week in the local paper. I have spoken to Mr. Grosvenor, your father-in-law, about this ~~becchi~~ court and I have practically insisted that he send you the rules or something. Don't think you are going to get so good down there that you can challenge the Newporters, because down there you are very much on the dry side as a pilot; whereas, up here, we are on the wet side since we have little to do. When you are up here and we get you on the wet side, you will be on the offside.

With many thanks for your very nice letter to me, with congratulations upon your advancement, and with hopes that your child will be quite wonderful, I am, as ever, with best regards to you and Anita

Yours sincerely,

R. W. Bates
Rear Admiral (ret.)

Captain Thomas McAndrews
Box 294
Gamboa, Canal Zone

0386

12 Mt. Vernon Street
Newport, Rhode Island
August 28, 1959

Dear Admiral James:

Several years ago, I appeared as the Grand Marshal of the Aquatennial Parade at Minneapolis, Minnesota. Last year, as a matter of interest, the Vice President of the United States had this assignment and this year, Admiral Burke. Minneapolis is a very active city with a very active organization of young business executives who are doing their best to boom the city and are succeeding admirably. However, in booming the City, they don't forget the past.

I presented the City with five battleflags which the cruiser Minneapolis had flown during certain of the battles in which she was engaged against Japan in the Western Pacific in World War II. I also gave them a large handmade chart showing the tracks of the Minneapolis across the Pacific during these battles. These flags and the battle chart are on display at the Hennepin County Historical Society in Minneapolis. The Navy Department thinks so well of this that the other day they provided the Historical Society with the silver service of the Minneapolis. All that they need now is a model of the cruiser.

I would be interested in knowing, therefore, whether or not a model of the Minneapolis was made at the time; and if so, where it was built, i.e. in what shipyard. The reason for this is that the President of the Hennepin County Historical Society will then write to the Secretary of the Navy to obtain this model for this extraordinarily patriotic exhibit.

It could be that although the Navy Department might not have ordered a model, the shipyard made one anyway, in which case, we will contact the shipyard.

0387

I don't like to bother you about these matters at this time with all your heavy responsibilities. However, I feel that you can readily delegate the matter to someone in your office who is familiar with your files, and that the answer can be readily discerned.

With best regards, I am

Very truly yours,

R. W. Bates
Rear Admiral (ret.)

Rear Admiral R. K. James
Chief of the Bureau of Ships
Main Navy Building
Constitution Avenue
Washington, D. C.

0388

12 Mt. Vernon Street
Newport, Rhode Island
September 2, 1959

Dear Joe:

Thank you for the clipping relative to your note to Admiral Oldendorf and his comment in return to you.

I feel as Oldendorf did and does, i.e. that it is too bad that these ships which have fought so gallantly for our nation's safety should now be melted up so, shall we say, carelessly. I don't think anybody really wants to destroy them but the upkeep on ships is terrific and the national expenditures for modern warfare are so great that they feel it unwise to endeavor to maintain these old ships and to keep them up-to-date.

This could be a very bad decision as the second line ships often are determined in warfare. If you will recall in World War I, the British second line of the older battleships was a vitally important factor in the final military decision. If we should succeed in keeping out of a nuclear war and should we, on the other hand, find ourselves in a conventional war, the need of these ships might be greater than we think. However, there are so many factors connected with it that I feel we must accept the opinion of the high command in recommending their destruction.

Do you know I didn't go out there for the Grove as I was too busy here working on several items. I have just accepted an invitation to the Naval War College to address the whole College on Command Decision and to conduct a seminar with the foreign officers later that day. For your information, we have this year 29 foreign officers from 29 different countries. We have three new ones, i.e. Mexico, Viet Nam and Burma. You may be surprised at bringing in these latter three and particularly the Far Eastern two, but we find it very important to build up good will among our allies. I asked one of the Far Eastern officers last year what he thought of the College. He had only been here about two weeks. His eyes danced and he said, "I think it wonderful. I have already met officers from countries I didn't know existed". I think he really meant from countries he didn't know had any Naval importance.

I hope to get up there in December. With regards and thanks for your continuing interest in me, I am, as ever

Your old friend,

R. W. Bates
Rear Admiral (ret.)

J. Joseph Sullivan
11 Sutter Street
San Francisco Cal

0389

12 Mt. Vernon Street
Newport, Rhode Island
September 4, 1959

Dear Mick:

I appreciate your prompt reply to my recent letter and I am glad to note that you do have in mind writing something someday. This statement of yours is not news to me as I have always felt that, sooner or later, you would have something to say about a lot of things.

It is true that at present you are very busy and I hope you will continue to be so; nevertheless, it seems well, when you have time, to dictate to one of the secretaries the thoughts that have arisen in your mind. I should be very happy to read what you have written because, as you know, I have always felt that you were one of the most erudite officers on the subject of sea power and there is a need for your views. I tried to convey the same thought to Admiral Spruance but he doesn't care to put anything in writing for books or magazines. I frankly think that this is the wrong view and I have told him so. Perhaps he is leaving notes or something that someone else might write.

As regards my own project, I am wondering whether it will be possible to reopen and at least finish Leyte. I wrote to Judge Eller about it and suggested we might get a foundation on the subject. As I said before, I hate to quit when the chips are down.

Give my best to Grace and here's hoping I will see you one day in the not too distant future when I venture to your hot Washington.

With very best regards and many thanks for your letter,
I am

Sincerely,

R. W. Bates
Rear Admiral (ret.)

0390

12 Mt. Vernon Street
Newport, Rhode Island
September 10, 1959

Dear Roy,

No one could have been more concerned than I was when the other morning, Admiral Ingersoll called me at my apartment to inform me of the fact that the selection board had omitted your name. I got very angry about it and I told the Admiral that I hoped that he hadn't submitted any reports which could have, in any way, downgraded your chance at success. Admiral Ingersoll said he knew how badly I felt about it and, to be very honest, he felt the same. He further said that no fitness reports in his time at the War College given to you could have been responsible in any way—in fact, he seemed to think that they were awfully good. Captain Wulzen felt the same. Of course, as you know, the fitness reports by both myself and later by Captain Wulzen are only preliminary. The President of the War College adjusts them as necessary to suit his concept and, in addition, marks certain parts—for example, the part "How would you class this officer among the Captains", is solely a function of the President and I, for one, was never consulted on this.

Some years ago, Admiral Conolly started to downgrade some of my fitness reports, as a result of which, we got into a frightful argument. It ended up by my recognizing the President's right to write what he wanted to and by Admiral Conolly recognizing that, in my case, he should properly leave them alone, except for the part referred to above. I am wondering what we can do about this and what the cause may have been. In the case of Commander Hindman, the Bureau told me that he had an outstanding record but his chance of promotion had been jeopardized by his spending 10 out of the last 12 years on shore duty. I would appreciate knowing whether you are in this same category. I don't know exactly how many years you spent at sea since you became a Commander or even a Lieutenant Commander. This could be the meat of the whole thing and we are hoping that it is. We are your friends here and your loyal supporters and we believe that the Navy made a mistake in your case. It is for that reason that we are hopeful that having completed a year at sea in the FDR and having done well, we may be able to convince the following Board of the error of the previous Board's ways.

0391

Please tell me all about this and what you think the cause may be. I haven't seen the register but I understand that a great many around you were not promoted. I thought for awhile that it might be your age factor but I understand you are only about 40, which should not be important enough to affect your promotion.

Once I have all the facts—and I plan to look them up in Washington—I am going to do something I didn't do in the case of Commander Hindman. I am going to write to the Captain of your ship and perhaps to the Admiral and I may write a letter myself and see if we can't awaken your superiors to your competence. So much for this for the present.

For your information, I am here still and I have just reviewed a large initial draft of a translation of the French book on the Imperial Guard, i.e. Napoleon. It is thoroughly interesting but is awfully long and hard to read because there is so much in it about genealogy, uniforms, number of troops, names, biographies, etc. as to cause you to be unable to omit anyone.

Now another matter—would you mind sending me the address of your beloved wife. I find in my papers that the Navy Department sent me some time ago a lot of information about scholarships. I would like to mail the whole works to her and it may be helpful.

The weather here, if it will do you any good, has been atrocious—both the heat and humidity have been high together and I have not been particularly impressed with my efficiency during these days. Of course, the Office Force knew when the humidity and temperature was up, Bates was down. This has not occurred this summer, possibly because I haven't been under much pressure.

I hope that you are all well and that your children are very happy in what they are doing. Naturally, I can't say I hope you are happy because in view of the action of that damn Board, you have no reason to feel so.

If you have any ideas on what you would like me to do, please tell me.

With best regards and great regrets I am, as ever

Your old friend,

R. W. Bates
Rear Admiral (ret.)

Commander Roy Belcher
USS Franklin D. Roosevelt
c/o Postmaster WFO
New York, New York

0392

12 Mt. Vernon Street
Newport, Rhode Island
October 1, 1959

Dear General Ennis:

There is a gentleman in Newport named Mr. Forsyth Wickes who is a collector of many items, largely French. He has a collection of Napoleon's letters and orders in attractive volumes in French which he is desirous of giving to the Army War College, if you would like to take them. The Naval War College has a complete set of these books which it purchased many, many years ago.

The name of the book is "Correspondance de Napoleon Ier" published MDCCCLVIII (1858). It is my understanding that there were originally 32 volumes and they were in Mr. Wickes' chateau in Normandy. However, when the Germans captured his chateau and used it as headquarters, they walked off with three or four of the volumes. There remained apparently about 28 volumes in first-class condition. Speaking for Mr. Wickes, I am interested in ascertaining whether you would like these volumes even though the set is broken. The reason we thought of the Army War College in this case is that Napoleon was essentially an Army man and because the Army War College having once been closed, it was thought that possibly you might not have this set.

I hope that you remember me here as I am an old friend of your wife, Frances, and of her mother who I see quite frequently here in Newport and who seems very well. I am also an old friend of Kay (Mrs. Spike Fahrion).

Things are going along very well here in Newport. Although retired, on Friday last I addressed the Naval War College for two hours and a half on Command Decision. Then in the afternoon, I was in seminar with our 29 foreign officers from 29 different countries.

I have no doubt that the Army War College is progressing favorably under your expert guidance and that you are finding being head of the Army War College is a most rewarding experience.

0393

I was at the Naval War College for about 15 years and it is awfully hard, even now, to shake it off.

Best regards to you and Frannie and with hopes that you will be able to reply shortly to me at the letterhead address, I am, as ever

Very sincerely yours,

R. W. Bates
Rear Admiral (ret.)

Major General William V. Ennis
Army War College
Carlisle, Pennsylvania

0394

12 Mt. Vernon Street
Newport, Rhode Island
October 6, 1959

Dear Judge,

Thank you for your letter of recent date relative to the question of completing the analysis of the Battle for Leyte Gulf.

I did not intend that the Government would pay any thing for this work—that is, the Navy. However, I did have a feeling that perhaps we could get a foundation to look into this thing. It was my hope that with the power of your office, you would be able to awaken some suitable foundation to the necessity for completing this job.

I wouldn't stress the fact that this should be done were it not for the fact that from all sources I hear most favorable comments on my ability to analyze without bias. I hope that this is not a misplaced conviction—you may have heard otherwise. My films have been shown over the years and are being shown today to the students of the Naval War College, not only in the Command and Staff Courses but also in the Naval Command Course (foreign officers). The remarks have always been remarkable.

I don't know whether I told you before, but at our Global Strategy this year we had the head of the Ford Public Relations Branch. After his return to Detroit, he wrote Admiral Ingersoll and said that he was thoroughly familiar with all means of communication, i.e. radio, television, newspapers and films. He further said that based on this fact, that my battle films were usually remarkable. One reason the films are remarkable, if they are, is because the story as written in the analysis is up to some high standard.

I want you to know that writing these analyses is very difficult. It takes many hours and nearly put me in the hospital. In fact, my right arm got so bad that they were going to give me extra physical disability on it. It is so much improved now though that I am once again showing interest in getting back to work on this subject only.

I do wish that you would give this matter some thought and perhaps we can get a foundation through Long Island University

0395

to put up the necessary funds. It might well be that the Navy Department would provide certain officers or bring them back to active duty, but not me. I am the one to go under the foundation.

I don't want to stress this matter too much and keep bothering you with it, but very little is gained by waiting. I have always found that by pressuring the responsible people, great results were often achieved.

With best regards I am, as ever

Your old friend

R. W. Bates
Rear Admiral (ret.)

Rear Admiral E. M. Eller
Historian of the Navy
Office of the Chief of Naval Operations
Washington 25, D. C.

0396

12 Mt. Vernon Street
Newport, Rhode Island
October 6, 1959

Dear Polly:

It is sometime since I have written to you but not sometime since I have thought of you or heard of you. Your very good friends and fortunately my very good friends as well, the Fergessons, are always talking about you. They admire you tremendously and think you are about the loveliest thing this side of the pearly gates. Because of this and because they have a friendship for me, they not only every now and then speak of you but they sent me a clipping of you and your penthouse in Hawaii. Someone wrote on the newspaper picture something about "what a leg show". I was very properly impressed. However, needless to say, I had already noted this very fine portion of your charming self so that I could understand why it was the photographers desired this beautiful shot.

Although I hate to see these apartment houses being built near Diamondhead, I nevertheless feel that it was inevitable unless the state took over the land and I am happy that the apartment houses now built or building are very good indeed. Your penthouse must be wonderful. I can't imagine anything nicer than to stand up there and observe the beauties of that wonderful island of Oahu, to say nothing of the sea breaking on its sandy shores.

I have been very busy since you left, largely socially, although I have done a lot of studying and preparation. I appeared at the War College last Friday for a whole day, during which time I was consistently under questioning by many. But surprisingly enough, I seemed to have done all right but I had to do something before hand as the foreign officers with whom I held an afternoon seminar were very interested in the strategy, not only of the present, but of the past—going back into the 18th century.

Your friends, the Fergessons, are in fine shape and I can assure you had a most delightful summer. They are marvelous—I have never seen them do this but I have been

0397

told so—they are marvelous water skiers and seem to be able to twist around on one ski at the slightest provocation.

I was given a book to review, i.e. the rough draft of a book on Napoleon's Guard and I found it so interesting that I invited Bob Fergusson to come in with me on it. He was as interested as I was. The book is a translation of a French work and the translation apparently, although my French is not too good, is better than the original. The result is that the story in English is probably better than that in French. Bob brought in another Army officer who is an authority on editing for publication and between the three of us, we have managed to be helpful not only to ourselves, but to the translator. When this book comes out, it should be a great hit, not to the reading public but to the historical public and to the military public where command means so much.

I hope things are going along well with my friends in Hawaii and I hope that the weather has been better than the weather here. We have had a tough time all summer with heat and humidity. Somehow I survived it but how I don't know, as I am not able to maneuver around as I did before World War II.

The visit of Mr. Khrushchev occupied our minds for a time but he irritates me so much, that I am reluctant to say too much about him here. I favored his visit to this country. I am glad he came and I think that his visit will do some good. Certainly, we are not going to end the cold war, but since the Russians had difficulty with their economy and since under Communist Doctrine the Commies are allowed to make love to the Capitalists, I wonder if this move of Khrushchev's to warm up the atmosphere is not designed to improve the Russian position.

I have been working busily this summer on some of these performances we have been putting on, such as the Music Festival which featured the Boston Pops Orchestra and I am now on Newport's Own Tunes and Talents. This latter is interesting as we are going to put on a performance of sacred choral and organ music before about 1200 people. I am Publicity Director for this and I believe that they are going to sing a hymn I wrote for World War II.

I certainly hope things are going well with you and I look forward to the time when I shall see your charming self again. If I have anything personal to say more than this, I will write it in longhand. With warmest personal regards and my best aloha I am, as ever

Your old friend,

0398

12 Mt. Vernon Street
Newport, Rhode Island
October 6, 1959

Dear Tommy:

This letter is to tell you and Barbara how delighted I was to receive a letter from your own daughter, Barbara, relative to the wedding present which I sent her. I spoke to Mr. Hallowell about this and told him I wanted something much better than usual and left it to him to make the choice. Judging from young Barbara's letter, the choice was excellent. What I am really writing to say is that her letter was a lovely letter and showed the high qualities of thoughtfulness and kindness which she has. She is quite a lady!

I wrote you at the time of the wedding to tell you of my regret at my inability to be present. I had wanted to be present—I had wanted to be in Washington—I have a lot of things to do in Washington—but, unfortunately, I got myself so fouled up here in social invitations, some of them many months in advance, that I found myself unable to leave for any number of days. Wearing a pair of trousers in Newport, while often very pleasant, can be very difficult as well. It just happened that at the time of the wedding, I was signed up for every night and I could not break the invitations after I had long accepted them.

Newport has been quite gay all summer and this is surprising—except for the Drexel debut, there were not any really large parties. The Drexel debut was quite remarkable and I enjoyed it and discovered that the arrangements were very superior. Even Mrs. Bruguiere said to me that the Drexel's must have been very expensive!

Things are beginning to slow down here in Newport to a degree, although I have been very busy doing a lot of things. Last Friday, I lectured for two hours and a half in the morning on Command Decision at the War College. Then in the afternoon, I appeared before the foreign officers in seminar. They have a rather interesting setup there in that they have a horseshoe with the foreign officers sitting behind their country label. Starting alphabetically, they go from the left on around to the right. I sat at the open end of the horseshoe. You could have handled the situation because you are a student of history. Because I know a little of

0399

history also, I was able to handle it and they have asked me back again, i.e. that is the foreign officers have. As I sat there and was interrogated about Nelson's strategy, Suffrin, as well as the battles of the Falkland Islands, Jutland and so forth, I couldn't help thinking of how few officers today could answer the questions adequately. The reason for this, of course, as you well know, is that there is less and less interest in history in our Navy. In Admiral Kalbfus' day, there was a great deal of interest and there was a lecture thereon every week; but today, except for my own performance, I don't think there is much more on history per se.

The social life in Newport, as I pointed out above, continues to be pretty gay. I am going to a series of parties. I am going to Brooks on Friday, Eleanor Hills on Saturday, the mixed clambake on Sunday with others scattered following. It is, therefore, my hope that within a reasonably short time I will succeed in arriving in Washington. I would like very much to see you and Barbara when I am there and I will let you know. As a matter of information, except for the Boston College football game in Boston and a one day trip to Maine and one to Connecticut to get apples, I have not been out of Newport in five months. From this you can see how badly I have been restricted in my movements.

Take care of yourself and if there is anything I can do for you up here, please let me know.

With warmest personal regards to you and Barbara I am,
as ever

Your old friend

R. W. Bates
Rear Admiral (ret.)

Rear Admiral T. H. Robbins
1516 34th Street N.W.
Washington 7, D. C.

0400

12 Mt. Vernon Street
Newport, Rhode Island
October 8, 1959

Dear Jack:

It was wonderful seeing you up here on the occasion of the graduation of your nephew from the OCS course and his commissioning as an Ensign. I haven't seen the pictures, as yet, but one day I suppose Admiral Crommelin will show them to me.

I enjoyed meeting your family. Your sister resembles you in many ways and certainly has the Bergen outline—that is, her facial characteristics resemble yours.

I was very happy to have you all at dinner with me at the Clambake Club and you were kind enough to think that I was the host, and I suppose that your family think likewise. Then when I discovered that you had paid the bill, I, as you know, was very much displeased. Although I know that you did this because there were so many of your family, I, nevertheless, am unhappy that you felt it wise to do it. It is typical of your thoughtfulness but you won't deny me the right to some irritation.

I have just written to Judge Eller about getting a foundation on the ball to see if we cannot finish this Battle for Leyte Gulf analysis. I am getting anxious about this. My heart specialist in Boston says that I can do it and that he would like me to continue it; also, everyone that I know in high position feels that they should be completed. I haven't talked to Admiral Ingersoll about this because, as I told you before, he took the stand that if the Navy Department felt it necessary to stop it, he would go along. He did ask that it be continued but he didn't ask with any fervor—at least that is what he told me and my section. I am very fond of him and I appreciate his attitude in that he isn't the only one who believes that history is not too important.

I spoke at the War College on Friday last for a whole day, about two and a half hours in the morning with the whole college and then about two hours and a half in the afternoon with the foreign officers only. The latter asked me many questions of strategy, including Nelson's operations, Sufferin (the Frenchman), Jutland, the Battle of the Falkland Islands and many questions on World War II. Fortunately, I think there

0401

was only one question in the whole day that I had to evade, even though slightly. These foreign officers understand thoroughly that we profit through the lessons of history and that the principles of strategy are changeless and, therefore, are as applicable today as yesterday.

When I talked to the whole college, I talked on suitability, feasibility and acceptability. I spent about five minutes tying in these factors with the civilian use thereof. I pointed out that very morning you had told the President of the Naval War College about the importance of these factors in civilian life, and of how before you went into a business deal you analyzed the objective and arrived at a conclusion using the above three factors.

I was told later that this was a very important part of my talk because a lot of the War College officers realize that all of them will not make Admiral and, therefore, they had better prepare themselves for civil life should that be their lot.

As regards the Leyte Gulf completion, it has been my thought that possibly we could get a Foundation to support this project either wholly or in part. Then the Navy would order certain officers and men to the section while the Foundation would provide other factors, such as me. If we could get Dick Conolly at Long Island University to handle it, we could get somewhere.

With best regards to you and "Babe" I am, as ever

Your old friend,

R. W. Bates
Rear Admiral (ret.)

Rear Admiral John J. Bergen, USNR
c/o J. J. Bergen & Co.
40 Wall Street
New York, New York

0402

12 Mt. Vernon Street
Newport, Rhode Island
October 8, 1959

Dear Mick:

I was very interested in receiving that letter to the Historian of the Navy relative to reopening the analysis of the Leyte Gulf study. I have now received a letter from Eller in which he talks of getting in contact with both you and Wilson and of the desire to complete it. However, he says they haven't any money and find it awfully difficult to get.

I was a little concerned at his attitude because if you are a historian and you want action, if you can't get the money out of the Navy, you get it out of a foundation. You go to them and tell them and by virtue of your prestige position, you accomplish things that other people might not be able to do. I am not being critical here of Judge Eller because I don't know what limitations are placed upon him in his present assignment, but I am critical of everybody from the top down ~~you~~ ^{we} should be alert to the fact that a knowledge of history is essential to success in war.

I was talking to Jack Bergen about this the other day and Jack was wondering if it might not be possible to get Congress interested in this. He thought that Congress might provide the necessary funds to complete the job. I don't know anything about this but I do feel that the job should be finished at the present time. Personally, I favor the foundation idea with Long Island University, under the presidency of Admiral Richard Conolly, acting as the guiding agent. Dick Conolly wants the job and has told me repeatedly about it. What do you suggest?

With warmest regards to you and to Grace and with much appreciation of your deep interest in this important writing, I am, as ever

Your old friend,

R. W. Bates
Rear Admiral (ret.)

Admiral Robert B. Carney
1314 28th Street N.W.
Washington, D. C.

0403

12 Mt. Vernon Street
Newport, Rhode Island
October 8, 1959

Dear Dick:

In recent time I have received several letters from you thanking me for my thoughtfulness in dedicating the chair to you at the Memorial Stadium at Annapolis. I appreciate greatly your approval of the dedication of this chair and your satisfaction that I thought of you this way.

What I said in the letter to the Memorial Stadium Committee was quite true, i.e. that I consider you to be the outstanding combat commander of your time. You made a great name for yourself in the war with some enemies because of two things—one, sheer jealousy; the other, sheer irritation that you had moved in ahead of the machine. By this, I mean to say that there was a group in command at the time and they promoted their own friends and gave their friends key positions, sometimes to the disadvantage of the United States. Fortunately, you rose above all this and what you contributed was always to the benefit of the United States. Why shouldn't I recognize you?

I am With best regards to you and to Helen,

Your old friend,

R. W. Bates
Rear Admiral (ret.)

Admiral Richard L. Conolly (ret.)
President, C. W. Post College
Long Island University
P. O. Box 247, Greenvale
Long Island, New York

0404

12 Mt. Vernon Street
Newport, Rhode Island
October 30, 1959

Dear Lieutenant Kiker:

The other day over at the Naval Station, Captain Heerbrandt, the Commander of the Naval Station, asked if I had read a book by you called "Strangers on Shore". I said, "no, what was it about", to which he replied that it was a book written about the Newport area and the Navy in particular. He then said, "You are characterized there and I thought you would like to know about it". With that, he loaned me the book from the library.

I have looked over this book and I find it written in a very clever fashion and should draw a reading audience. I am a little unhappy that the Navy, as represented by you here, is perhaps a little more human than we had hoped. In other words, some of the standards are represented as being pretty low. However, modern books seem to require something like that and, therefore, perhaps you felt justified in putting it in.

What I really wanted to write about, though, was the characterization in there which Captain Heerbrandt referred to. Naturally, I don't know whether you had used me as your example or not, but the indications are that it is I who you have represented in this book. I must say I don't think the characterization is either correct or flattering, nor do those to whom I showed it. In the first place, I did not retire as a Captain but as a Rear Admiral and was a Commodore at the time you were here in Newport. Secondly, to compare my books with Morison who, by the way, you have misspelled and Walter Karig is ridiculous and, to say the least, an unhappy comparison. This is because my works are classified with no attempt to make them popular. Certainly neither Morison or Mr. Karig could possibly write my books. There is far more chance that I might write theirs and, in fact, on occasions I have contributed.

This poppycock about being accepted among the summer colony and the rich widows, the flowers and the flirting is even worse than the above. This is so because in the first place, I do not send old widows flowers on their birthday nor do I flirt with them. This is because I practically never go to tea. The thought of being accepted by the

0405

summer colony is likewise unhappy because I consider that my Naval position is every bit as good as that of anyone of the summer colony and I do not think that I have been accepted so much as there has been a mutual respect. Certainly I entertain them as much as they entertain me and I feel there is a tendency here to be slightly snobbish.

Except for the above, I think that what you have to say is fair enough and is correct as regards my own views. However, the statement that I said that Pearl Harbor sank the battleship couldn't be more silly. I didn't say so. On the contrary, during the war, I recommended we keep the fast battleships because the anti-aircraft defense they provided were so enormous that every task group wished them with them.

I appreciate fully the privilege of being written up in one of your books which are good sellers, but I do hope that when you have a second printing you will modify what people consider to be a write-up of me to make it a little more honorable.

Outside of all of this, Newport is fine. The summer was hot and moist as it was everywhere else. The Schools Command is underway strongly and it looks as though the Navy in this area is moving along toward better things.

With best wishes for the Yuletide Season,
I am

Very sincerely yours,

R. W. Bates
Rear Admiral (ret.)

Lieutenant Douglas Kiker
c/o Commandant, Potomac River
Naval Command
Washington, D. C.

0406

12 Mt. Vernon Street
Newport, Rhode Island
November 4, 1959

Dear Mick:

I was very happy to receive your letter and see that you agreed, in principle, with my concept of the foundation support relative to completing the study for the Battle of Leyte Gulf. I hope you advised Judge Eller to that effect. I am dictating this letter to you without your basic letter so that I am not quite sure exactly what you said but I do know, and that with delight, that you approve of my attitude. I am not critical of Judge Eller. I realize that he is in a tough position because the Navy has never approved of history. For some reason, we seem to feel that any sign of looking backwards is weakness and, therefore, we always look forward without the guidance of the past to guide us. The reason for this, of course, is that very few of our leaders over the years have really studied their profession. They were wonderful doers, none better—but as thinkers, not necessarily so.

You, while you were not a graduate of the War College, had so much interest in your profession that you took a correspondence course and you were always located in key spots on Staff and in Planning, so your education was perhaps better than what you could have gotten by attending the Naval War College directly. However, I know that you have thoroughly supported the War College in your term of office and I know that you are one the College has always looked up to. All I want Judge Eller to do is to use the power of his office to see if he can't get a foundation interested in this matter. I know that there are many foundations and I feel almost certain that one of them can be convinced as to the correctness of this foundation idea.

I hope your trip to Europe was very successful and very rewarding. I don't know whether you went alone or not but I hope that your Mrs. went with you. Modern life, with its high tensions, requires in many cases that the wife go along with her husband on these trips. She seems to be a sobering influence and keeps him out of trouble of all kinds. I suppose the reason I haven't made any trips is I haven't got a wife!

I plan to go to the Army-Navy game and I suppose you will be, so I will see you at the Commandant's pre-game luncheon. Best regards and thanks for your loyalty and persistent support of me, I am, as ever

Your old friend,

R. W. Bates
Rear Admiral (ret.)

0407

12 Mt. Vernon Street
Newport, Rhode Island
November 4, 1959

BERGEN

Dear Jack:

I certainly enjoyed the Navy League Banquet in New York. I had a fine seat alongside the Assistant to the President of U. S. Steel, Mr. Barnam (?). I had a long talk with him and he wants to communicate with me. I have his name on a card in my pocket at my apartment so that, but for the moment, I have perhaps forgotten it.

I thought this was perhaps the best Navy League Banquet that has been held. Everything was quite emotional, particularly the reference to Admiral Bill Halsey. The way it was done was very clever — the blowing of taps, the echoes — the whole thing indicated an understanding and well thought out program. Are you going to be at the Army-Navy game and, if so, are you attending the Commandant's pre-game luncheon. For some reason, I was cut off last year but I have now been restored, so I hope to be there.

I received a letter from Mick Carney the other day saying that he was very impressed with my idea of having a foundation get back of this study of mine on the Battle for Leyte Gulf. I recollect that you suggested Congress and Byrnes MacDonald, who unfortunately died, had told me just before he died that he would guarantee to start it in a matter of minutes if I gave him the word. This was through his New York political connections. I didn't give him the word as I preferred to operate through more "legal" means. I recollect that you had indicated Admiral Carney would not support this project. This may be so but in his letters to me, he seems very anxious to straighten it out. This is because his staff have read my studies and are impressed that I am the only one who has, at this point, a clear understanding of Admiral Halsey's problems. This is because of the great extent of research my Staff and I did to get the truth about the operations of all commanders and so far I think we are uniquely fair.

I am going to write a letter to Mary shortly. I was very distressed that she had lost her mother. We all know that these things will occur and we, ourselves, will be called one day; but, nevertheless, when it occurs, there is always a shock — so your beloved Mary is probably in shock to a degree and I want to help pull her out.

0408

I loved meeting your daughter, the Countess. I think that she is perfectly stunning and is really beautiful, not only in her appearance but in her outlook toward life. In addition, she seems completely unspoiled. You certainly did a fine job here!

With best regards and many thanks for everything, I am,
as ever

Your old friend,

R. W. Bates
Rear Admiral (ret.)

0409

12 Mt. Vernon Street
Newport, Rhode Island
November 4, 1959

Dear Dick:

It was very nice to see you at the Navy League Banquet at the Waldorf-Astoria last week and I was delighted to see how well you were looking. Certainly, your success as President of the Long Island University is doing nothing to increase your age, either in appearance or in fact.

I am awfully sorry that I cannot be there for your convocation and reception on November 9th but, alas, I am on this show "Newport's Own Tunes and Talents" which goes on Sunday night and we will have matters connected with it on Monday morning. I shall be very happy when it is over as I have had to do a considerable amount of work as the Publicity Director. I have enjoyed the work, however, as it has given me certain contacts in Newport which I might not otherwise have made. In this, I refer largely to the working public, such as the owners of stores, managers of banks, and, in fact, the people who do things in each community.

I hope Helen is in fine shape and that your residence looks as charming in the fall as it did in the spring. I will be writing you presently as I should like to come down there and see you for a few days, but I want to go to Washington first, I think.

There is still some conversation going on relative to completing this project of mine. Admiral Carney seems pretty anxious to get it underway and I wrote a letter to both him and the Director of Naval History, Admiral Eller, wherein I suggested that a foundation be obtained to do this under the guidance of the President of Long Island University. I got a fine letter back from Mick saying that he was all behind it and hadn't ever thought of the foundation. I have heard nothing from Eller, possibly because I may have inferred that I was critical of his procrastination. Actually, this is not so as the project was not directly under Eller anyway. However, to get it underway now will require Eller or other influence. I would like to have the decision in the matter as the papers, the file cabinets and everything is being held up here at the War College in abeyance. I don't have to do this at the War College. Actually, I could just as well do it either in Washington or even in Greenvale, Long Island. The point is that there must be a staff and either this would come from the foundation or the Navy would supply this phase.

With best regards to you both, I am, as ever

Your old friend,

R. W. Bates
Rear Admiral (ret.)

0410

12 Mt. Vernon Street
Newport, Rhode Island
November 6, 1959

Dear Sir:

I am Rear Admiral Richard W. Bates, U. S. Navy, Retired, living in Newport where, until recently, I had been associated with the Naval War College writing critical analyses for the last twelve years. As a consequence, people in town and I are very friendly. For that reason, a gentleman in Newport named Mr. Forsyth Wickes communicated with me relative to a collection of Napoleon's letters and orders which he is desirous of giving to the Military Academy, if you would like to have them. For your information, the Naval War College has a complete set of these books which they purchased many, many years ago

The name of the book is "Correspondence de Napoleon ler". It is my understanding that there were originally 32 volumes and they were in Mr. Wickes' chateau in Normandy when the Germans captured it and used it as headquarters. At this time, they walked off with three or four of the volumes. There are presently about twenty-eight volumes in first-class condition. Speaking for Mr. Wickes, I am interested in ascertaining whether you would like these volumes for the Military Academy, even though the set is broken.

I don't know the value of these books today. I don't think it is very great but they are in good condition and might possibly be useful. I should appreciate a reply from you as regards these books addressed to me at the above address.

With best wishes for the Thanksgiving Season, I am

Very sincerely yours,

R. W. Bates
Rear Admiral (ret.)

Librarian
U. S. Military Academy
West Point, New York

0411

12 Mt. Vernon Street
Newport, Rhode Island
November 9, 1959

Dear Charles:

The other day just before the Pennsylvania game, I called your office and endeavored to contact you. Unfortunately, you were on the way to Philadelphia and it was not possible to do so. However, Commander Dudley took over and was helpful, for which I wish to thank him, through you.

I called you about a Dr. John Adams from Newport who was down there at the Annapolis Golf Club in his yacht "Gee Gee", (a small 33 footer). Apparently, the Doctor had been blown into the Chesapeake by strong winds and seas and had decided to go to Annapolis.

He called his wife in Newport, (the former Muriel Vanderbilt) and told her of his presence there. As I was at a dinner party where she was also, I called your office to see if they would not be willing to show Dr. Adams around the Naval Academy. Commander Dudley said he would be very happy to do so and I am sure made an effort to find the Doctor. Alas! the weather had suddenly cleared and the Doctor had decided to depart immediately. Whether or not he called your office about this, I do not know; but if he didn't, it was an unhappy thing, and I apologize.

Anyway, I wanted to thank you for the kind assistance of your Staff.

New subject — I received a letter the other day from a former PT boat officer, Mr. Harold B. Stoughton, relative to his son, Bob, who wants to go to Annapolis. The boy has an extraordinarily high record, having a high school average of 92½ which placed him in the honor societies, etc., etc. He is an excellent leader, being President of the Senior class, runner-up for "Boys State", co-captain of the varsity football team, etc., etc. He is a very good athlete, having been on the wrestling, football and baseball teams and, believe it or not, has competed in the International Comet Class Racing Regatta during the past year. He has passed the physical examination at West Point. According to the father of the boy, Colonel Bolling at the U. S. Military Academy said confidentially that young Stoughton's qualifications "fit the whole man concept beautifully and that the boy is just the kind they wanted at the Military Academy". Unfortunately for the Army, the lad wishes to enter the Naval Academy. So the father has written to me and apparently to "Rip" Miller about it. The boy is 17 years old and wants a Naval career more than anything else.

0412

The father wrote to me because he has had difficulty getting an appointment to Annapolis for his son. There is a lot of politics in this, and a boy nowhere nearly as deserving as young Bob Stoughton may be appointed. Is there some way the Navy can handle this? Could you have someone on your Staff advise me immediately about this?

I hate to bother you but knowing that as Superintendent you are very interested in the quality of your midshipmen and in the future of our Nation, I feel that you don't mind.

With best regards and with hopes I will see you at the Army-Navy game and before the game at Admiral Lyman's, I am, as ever

Your old friend,

R. W. Bates
Rear Admiral (ret.)

Rear Admiral Charles L. Melson
Superintendent, U. S. Naval Academy
Annapolis, Maryland

0413

12 Mt. Vernon Street
Newport, Rhode Island
November 9, 1959

(TITCS)

Dear Jack:

I appreciated greatly having received several cards from you as you moved across the Continent to Downey, and I am happy that your trip was evidently so successful. I hope you are finding things in California up to the high standards which you had hoped to discover there, and that all is well. While you are there, I hope you will see Captain "Joe" Rochefort who is somewhere around the Los Angeles area, and will also check up on our old friend, H. M. S. Gimber.

I noticed among the comments in the latest U. S. Naval Institute that Admiral Ruddock has moved into the picture. Ruddock says that he was surprised to read also in the Naval Institute that Admiral Oldendorf had had word about 4:00 A. M. that the Japanese were coming through San Bernardino Strait. Ruddock says that this interested him because he also is certain that he had received this word about that time.

I don't know where this idea came from as we have all searched thoroughly in all files to see if we could support Admiral Oldendorf, but without success. I, therefore, don't think that it is true, Ruddock seems to think that it may have been a coast watcher report. However, if it were a coast watcher, it seems strange that action wasn't taken by someone. Ruddock suggests that the files of the West Virginia be looked into carefully and I may ask permission to do it. But since the point about early information is not mentioned in Mr. Hawthorne's book and not in Oldendorf's report, I am wondering if it hasn't grown up through the years. I think that the first time that I heard about it was in Washington (February 1945), when Admiral Oldendorf tried to include it in his statement, now on microfilm.

I am still around Newport and will go to California next month or in January. I haven't decided, as yet, as I want to go down to Washington to discern what, if anything, is in the air regarding the completion of our project.

For your information, Admiral Carney is anxious to have it done and so are others and I have suggested a founda-

0414

tion, at least in part, and this meets with Carney's great approval and possibly with Eller's — but as to the latter, I do not know.

I am fine and since the weather has cooled, my health seems to have cooled with it.

With best regards, I am, as ever

Your old friend,

R. W. Bates
Rear Admiral (ret.)

Captain J. C. Titus USN
7924 East Second Street
Downey, California

0415